

HOUSE BILL 433

By Byrd

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,
Chapter 1, Part 3, relative to state symbols.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 1, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

The poem entitled "Echoes from a Soldier's Grave," by Sergeant First Class Ernest E. Sharp, is designated and adopted as the official veterans' poem of this state.

The poem reads as follows:

You said go and away I went

I didn't know where I'd be sent

But I left my home just for you

And vowed to serve the red, white, and blue

Now there you are safe and sound

See I didn't let you down

I died to keep you free

Why don't you remember me?

Your big football game will soon begin

Now you're gonna hear our song again

As the band plays loud and clear

"Star Spangled Banner" is what you hear

Now look around at all you hold dear

You know you have no need to fear

'Cause I died you're safe and free
Why can't you remember me?

It's Christmas time the family's all there
Holiday music filled the air
No need to worry about danger at all
'Cause somewhere soldiers are standing tall
They gave your freedom whatever the price
Some will make the supreme sacrifice
I am one that died to keep you free
Why can't you remember me?

Another year will soon end
But for you a new one will begin
Don't let my death bring you sorrow
Let it bring hope for tomorrow
For I am not asking you to cry
I just lie here and wonder why
I died to keep you free
Why can't you remember me?

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring
it.